



Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Authority

818 West Seventh Street  
Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

213.972.6000

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 194  
Los Angeles, CA 90053

September 7, 1995

TO: MTA BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES

FROM: JIM SMART

SUBJECT: UPCOMING LOS ANGELES TIMES NEWS ARTICLE

The Los Angeles Times is expected to soon publish a column on the MTA's tunneling plans through the Hollywood mountains, focusing on the use of explosives as part of the mining technique. The article also will note that the rail alignment will cross an earthquake fault last active some 60,000 years ago. The column also is expected to note MTA's plans to insure the rail line is built safely.

Our engineers have informed a reporter with the paper that the use of explosives will occur hundreds of feet below the earth's surface and should not result in any damage to structures. The techniques to be followed by MTA contractors in the use of explosives are the same as those used during construction of the ARCO Plaza and hillside developments in Los Angeles. The contractor for this segment of the line has considerable experience and has successfully completed two major projects, one in Milwaukee and the other in Chicago using similar explosive techniques.

All of our plans have been carefully reviewed by Cal Tech seismologists who assure us that our plans are safe.